

Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 AGR-05 CIAE-00 EB-04 INR-05

LAB-01 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SP-02 STR-01 TRSE-00 SWF-01

CIEP-01 FRB-01 OMB-01 L-02 SSO-00 INRE-00 /032 W

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O 160640Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7014

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL HONG KONG IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 7700

SINGAPORE PASS SMITH/GAREL IF STILL IN SINGAPORE

HONG KONG PASS SMITH/GAREL IF ARRIVED HONG KONG

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, HK, KS, SN

SUBJECT: ROK/US BILATERAL TEXTILE UNDERSTANDINGS

REF STATE 252528

1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS PARZ 8 REFTL, EMBASSY HAS INFORMED KIM, DONG WHIE THROUGH SUN, JOUN YUNG THAT USG HAS FOUND THAT SERIOUS TECHNICAL ERROR RELATIVE TO SUITS HAS BEEN MADE AND THAT SMITH AND GAREL PLAN TO RETURN SEOUL TO DISCUSS.

2. CONSIDERING SENSITIVITY OF MATTER, EMBASY RESTRICTED ITS DISCUSSION TO EXPLICIT INSTRUCTIONS PARA 8 REFTL SAYING EMBASSY HAD NO FURTHER DETAILS AT THIS POINT. SUN VOLUNTEERED, HOWEVER, THAT SINCE HE COULD NOT RECALL ANY TECHNICAL FACTORS INVOLVED WITH OTHER SUIT CATEGORIES, HE PRESUMED ISSUE INVOLVED CATEGORY 224. HE CONTINUEED THAT AS HE REMEMBERED NEGOTIATIONS, ROKG INITIALLY ASKED FOR 4.5 CONVERSION FACTOR WITH 20 PERCENT CONFIDENTIAL

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REDUCTION. WHEN USG CALCULATIONS REVEALED SWITCH TO 4.5

CONVERSION FACTOR MADE SUBSTANTIAL A DIFFERENCE AS COMPARED

TO USING OLD CONVERSION FACTOR, USG INSISTED ON 40 PERCENT
REDUCTION, A POINT TO WHICH ROKG EVENTUALLY AGREED.

3. EMBASSY REPLIED THAT IT DID NOT HAVE THE INFORMATION
AVAILABLE TO COMMENT ON SUN'S REMARKS, BUT DID REMIND SUN
THAT BOTH PARTIES DID AGREE THAT TECHNICAL ERRORS WOULD BE
REVIEWED AND CORRECTED AND THAT WE UNDERSTOOD THAT USG
CONSIDERS THIS MATTER TO FALL IN THAT CATEGORY. SUN
WAS VERY GUARDED IN HIS RESPONSE SAYING THAT HE
WAS NOT SURE THAT IT DID FALL IN THAT CATEGORY, BUT THAT
ROKG WOULD, OF COURSE, WELCOME RETURN OF SMITH AND GAREL TO
DISCUSS MATTER. HE ADDED THAT HE WOULD INFORM KIM, DONG
WHIE PROMPTLY AND INDICATED MOFA WOULD PROBABLY WANT TO
DISCUSS THIS FURTHER WITH EMBASSY ON MONDAY.

4. WE MAY BE IN BETTER POSITION MAKE JUDGMENT ON MONDAY
AFTER SUN HAS DISCUSSED WITH KIM, DONG WHIE. IN MEANTIME,
HOWEVER, SUN'S COMMENTS AND GENERAL MANNER LEFT
EMBASSY WITH IMPRESSION THAT ROKG HAS BEEN FULLY AWARE
ALL ALONG OF SIGNIFICANCE OF LANGUAGE IN MOU RELATIVE
TO CATEGORY 224.

5. FOR SMITH AND GAREL: AS INDICATED ABOVE, EMBASSY
HAS SO FAR REFRAINED FROM PROVIDING ROKG ANY INFORMATION
BEYOND THAT CONTAINED PARA 8 REFTEL. IF YOU WOULD LIKE
TO HAVE US REVEAL ANY ADDITIONAL DETAILS, WE WOULD
APPRECIATE IT IF YOU WOULD CABLE US OUTLINE OF SPECIFIC
DETAILS WE SHOULD PASS ON PRIOR YOUR ARRIVAL.
SNEIDER

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